



Docket No.: 044376-0028

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
	:	
TSUMORU MATSUURA, et al.	:	Confirmation Number: 8064
	:	
Application No.: 09/437,499	:	Group Art Unit: 2626
	:	
Filed: November 10, 1999	:	Examiner: WALLERSON, Mark E.
	:	
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS	:	

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH RCE**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination the following Preliminary Amendment and remarks are submitted concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.